

## **ENCLOSURE 1**

### **SBA SHIPYARD SUPERFUND SITE JENNINGS, JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA INFORMATION REQUEST**

#### **RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST**

Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as the federal “Superfund” law, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) responds to the release or threat of release of hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants into the environment to stop additional contamination and to clean-up or otherwise address any prior contamination.

The EPA is requesting information under CERCLA Section 104(e). Section 104(e) may be found in the United States Code (U.S.C.) at Title 42 Section (section is denoted by the symbol “§”) 9604(e), 42 U.S.C. § 9604(e).

Pursuant to the authority of CERCLA Section 104(e), you are hereby requested to respond to the enclosed information request. If you have any questions concerning the Site’s history or this information request letter, please contact Mr. Kenneth Talton, the designated Enforcement Officer for the Site, at phone number (214) 665-7475, fax number (214) 665-6660 or via email at [talton.chuck@epa.gov](mailto:talton.chuck@epa.gov). Please mail your response within 30 calendar days of your receipt of this request to the following address:

Mr. Kenneth Talton, Enforcement Officer  
Superfund Enforcement Assessment Section (6SF-TE)  
U.S. EPA, Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

If you or your attorney have legal questions that pertain to this information request letter, please contact Ms. I-Jung Chiang at phone number (214) 665-2160, fax number (214) 665-6460 or via email at [Chiang.I-Jung@epa.gov](mailto:Chiang.I-Jung@epa.gov). For contact via mail, use the following address:

Ms. I-Jung Chiang, Attorney  
Office of Regional Counsel (6RC-S)  
U.S. EPA Region 6  
1445 Ross Avenue  
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Site is situated on approximately 98 acres of land located in a rural-industrial area at 9040 Castex Landing Road, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana 70546. The Site is within Section 19 of Range 2W, Township 105 and is located at the end of Louisiana Highway 3166) which is on the west bank of the Mermentau River. The Site is approximately four miles southeast of downtown Jennings and two miles southwest of the village of Mermentau. The Site is bordered to the north by residents, south and west by wetlands, and east by the Mermentau River and wetlands.

The Site primarily consists of two separately-owned parcels of property, one southern and one northern. The southern and northern properties are generally divided by a property line that runs just north of the large barge slip. Suzanne Smailhall Cornelius, (heir of Louis Smailhall, principal of SBA Shipyards, Inc.) and SBA Shipyards, Inc. (now inactive) own the southern property, which historically was operated as a barge cleaning operation. Bunge Street Properties, LLC, f/k/a Leevac Shipyards, Inc., owns the northern property, which historically was operated as a vessel construction and repair operation.

SBA Shipyards, Inc. ("SBA") began operations at the Site on about 1965. Initially, it performed vessel construction and repair operations on what is now the northern parcel. In the 1970s, SBA constructed the graving dock on the northern parcel and dredged the barge slip and constructed the barge cleaning facility on what is now the southern parcel. Leevac Shipyards, Inc. ("Leevac") entered into a lease with option to purchase for the northern vessel construction and repair facility with SBA in 1993. Leevac operated vessel construction and repair operations on the northern parcel beginning in 1993. Leevac then exercised its option to purchase in 1998 and acquired the northern parcel at that time and continued its operations. SBA continued to operate its barge cleaning operations on the southern parcel up until approximately 2006, when Mr. Smailhall died.

Vessel construction and repair utilized two launch slips with on-land rails to haul and launch vessels and eventually a graving dock with a moving gate where a vessel could enter and the dock de-watered to allow construction and repairs on dry land. Both SBA and Leevac activities included sandblasting, cutting and painting, as well as fabricating and repairing vessels. Barge cleaning operations were conducted by SBA only on the southern parcel. SBA converted a small barge placed on land adjacent to the barge slip into its "boiler barge," which it used to generate steam for use in cleaning barges and it also served as the barge cleaning control room.

SBA cleaned barges and other vessels that had contained as last cargos a variety of materials, including, but not limited to: acrylates, asphalt, carbon tetrachloride, coal tar, coke oven tar, carbon black, carbon oil, caustic soda, creosote, cumene, black oil and black oil slop, bunker crude, diesel fuel, heavy grease, waste water, ethyl acrylates, kerosene, lube oil, methanol, number 6 oil, rust, scale, styrene, sour gas oil, soy bean oil, sulphuric acid, tallow, and vinyl acetate.

SBA used a large partially buried barge, as well as above-grade tanks constructed from cut-up barges, to store liquids, sludges, solids and other materials during the barge cleaning process. SBA also constructed and used an unlined surface impoundment called the Oil Pit to store liquids, sludges, solids and other materials. Aside from the Oil Pit, SBA used three other unlined surface impoundments, called Water Pits 1, 2 and 3, to receive wastewater, sludges, and solids from the barge cleaning process.

Records reviews indicate that SBA unsuccessfully undertook efforts to bio-remediate Water Pit 1 during 1990 and 1991. SBA proposed to implement a RCRA Facility Investigation (RFI) and submitted an RCRA RFI Work Plan in 1996, that proposed the complete closure of the impoundments and tanks. EPA

issued a RCRA 3008(a) Compliance Order to SBA on July 1, 1997. On September 9, 1997 SBA entered into a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) with EPA to resolve all issues presented in the Compliance Order regarding storage, disposal and treatment of hazardous waste without a permit, and clean-up the facility. However, SBA was unable to implement any of the actions required under the CAFO.

Thereafter, in December 10, 2002 EPA entered into an Order and Agreement for Interim Measures/Removal Action (IM/RA) of Hazardous/Principal Threat Wastes at SBA Shipyards, Inc., Docket No. RCRA-6-2002-0908, pursuant to RCRA Section 3008(h) ("2002 Order/Agreement") with SBA and SSIC Remediation, LLC ("SSIC"), an entity formed by certain former customers of SBA's barge cleaning operations to conduct this work. Interim removal activities were conducted from March 2001 through January 2005 under the 2002 Order/Agreement. Interim removal activities consisted of the removing, solidifying, and recycling and/or disposing off-site the waste in the Oil Pit and Water Pit 2 and then over-excavation of the Oil Pit and Water Pit 2; removal and scrapping of above ground storage tanks; draining and refilling of Water Pit 3; removing all pumpable materials from the partially buried barge and disposing those materials off-site, then welding shut all hatches to that barge; and surface scrapping of all visible materials from a former land treatment unit. By letter dated February 24, 2006, EPA Region 6's RCRA branch reviewed and approved the completion report of the IM/RA activities and concluded that the completion report fulfilled the 2002 Order/Agreement. The IM/RA, however, was intended as an interim response; hazardous substance remained onsite after the IM/RA.

In October 2012, the U.S. Coast Guard and the LDEQ responded to a reported release at the barge cleaning portion of the Site from an attempt to scrap the "boiler barge" and the partially buried storage barge by parties contracted by the owner of the southern portion of the Site.

During 2014 to 2015, EPA conducted a CERCLA emergency removal action and an Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA) removal action after LDEQ reported barge scrapping activities and releases of visible liquids at the Site.

Between December 2012 and September 2014, EPA conducted a preliminary assessment, site inspection and expanded site inspection. As part of the EPA activities, the Agency conducted sampling activities at the Site. During those site activities, EPA sampling documented releases or threats of releases of hazardous substances in the subsurface and groundwater of the Site, the Mermentau River, and wetlands surrounding the Site. Numerous hazardous substances were identified at the Site including petroleum hydrocarbons, numerous polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons ("PAHs"), dioxins/furans, metals, and volatile organic compounds ("VOCs"). Petroleum and non-petroleum substances found at portions of the Site are or were comingled.

Specific PAHs founds at the Site include: acenaphthene; anthracene; acenaphthylene; benzo(a)anthracene; benzo(a)pyrene; benzo(b)fluoranthene; benzo(g,h,i)perylene; benzo(k)fluoranthene; 1,1'-biphenyl; carbazole; chrysene; dibenzofuran; dibenz(a,h)anthracene; fluoranthene; fluorine; indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene; 2-methylnaphthalene; naphthalene; phenanthrene; and pyrene.

Specific dioxins/furans found at the Site include: Chlorinated Dibenzo-p-Dioxins and Chlorinated Dibenzofurans. Those with some of the highest TEQs include: 2,3,4,7,8-Pentachlorodibenzofuran; 2,3,4,6,7,8-Hexachlorodibenzofuran ("HxCDF"); 1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF; 1,2,3,7,8,9-Hexachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin; and Octachlorodibenzo-p-dioxin.

Specific metals found at the Site include: arsenic; chromium; cobalt; lead; mercury; manganese; cadmium; copper; nickel; zinc; and barium.

Specific VOCs and Semi VOCs found at the Site include: benzene; cyclohexane; methylcyclohexane; 1,2-dichlorobenzene; ethylbenzene; tetrachloroethene; styrene; isopropylbenzene; tetrachloroethene; xylene; cis-1,2-dichloroethane; toluene; and vinyl chloride.

Local residents reportedly use the Mermentau River for recreational fishing. During the ESI, EPA observed a family of five fishing in the Site's barge slip. HRS documentation of EPA's findings identifies a human food fishery in the Mermentau River, both within and outside the zone of contamination; and Lake Arthur at the terminus of the 15-mile target distance limit.

EPA's findings identify the predominant threat to human populations, animals, or the food chain is the potential for exposure by direct contact with PAHs, VOCs, dioxins/furans, and metals.

Pursuant to CERCLA Section 105, 42 U.S.C. § 9605, the SBA Shipyard site was listed on the National Priorities List (81 FR 62397) on September 9, 2016.

On November 18, 2016, EPA entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) with some of the potentially responsible parties.

## ENCLOSURE 2

### SBA SHIPYARD SUPERFUND SITE JENNINGS, JEFFERSON DAVIS PARISH, LOUISIANA INFORMATION REQUEST

#### INSTRUCTIONS AND DEFINITIONS

1. Please provide a separate narrative response for each and every Question and subpart of a Question set forth in this Information Request.
2. Precede each answer with the Question (or subpart) and the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it corresponds.
3. If information or documents not known or not available to you as of the date of submission of a response to this Information Request should later become known or available to you, ***you must supplement*** your response to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Moreover, should you find, at any time, after submission of your response, that any portion of the submitted information is false or misrepresents the truth, or, though correct when made, is no longer true, you must notify the EPA of this fact as soon as possible and provide the EPA with a corrected response.
4. For each document produced in response to this Information Request, indicate on the document, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the Question (and the letter of a subpart of a Question, if applicable) to which it responds.
5. You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering part or all of the information which you submit in response to this request. Any such claim must be made by placing on (or attaching to) the information, at the time it is submitted to the EPA, a cover sheet or a stamped or typed legend or other suitable form of notice employing language such as "trade secret," "proprietary," or "company confidential." Confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified and may be submitted separately to facilitate identification and handling by the EPA. If you make such a claim, the information covered by that claim will be disclosed by the EPA only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in subpart B of 40 CFR Part 2. If no such claim accompanies the information when it is received by the EPA, it may be made available to the public by the EPA without further notice to you. The requirements of 40 CFR Part 2 regarding business confidentiality claims were published in the Federal Register on September 1, 1976, and were amended September 8, 1976, and December 18, 1985.
6. Personal Privacy Information. Personnel and medical files, and similar files the disclosure of which to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy should be segregated from your responses, included on separate sheet(s), and marked as "Personal Privacy Information."

7. Objections to questions. If you have objections to some or all the questions within the Information Request Letter, you are still required to respond to each of the questions.

## **DEFINITIONS**

The following definitions shall apply to the following words as they appear in this enclosure:

1. The terms "and" and "or" shall be construed either disjunctively or conjunctively as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.
2. The term "any", as in "any documents" for example, shall mean "any and all."
3. The term "arrangement" means every separate contract or other agreement between two or more persons.
4. The terms "document(s)" and "documentation" shall mean any object that records, stores, or presents information, and includes writings of any kind, formal or informal, whether or not wholly or partially in handwriting, including by way of illustration and not by way of limitation, any invoice, manifest, bill of lading, receipt, endorsement, check, bank draft, canceled check, deposit slip, withdrawal slip, order, correspondence, record book, minutes, memorandum of telephone and other conversations including meetings, agreements and the like, diary, calendar, desk pad, scrapbook, notebook, bulletin, circular, form, pamphlet, statement, journal, postcard, letter, telegram, telex, telecopy, telefax, report, notice, message, analysis, comparison, graph, chart, map, interoffice or intra office communications, photostat or other copy of any documents, microfilm or other film record, any photograph, sound recording on any type of device, any punch card, disc pack; any tape or other type of memory generally associated with computers and data processing (together with the programming instructions and other written material necessary to use such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory and together with the printouts of such punch card, disc, or disc pack, tape or other type of memory); and (a) every copy of each document which is not an exact duplicate of a document which is produced, (b) every copy which has any writing, figure or notation, annotation or the like on it, (c) drafts, (d) attachments to or enclosures with any document and (e) every document referred to in any other document.
5. The term "hazardous material" shall mean any hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants, and hazardous wastes, as defined below.
6. The term "hazardous substance" shall have the same definition as that contained in Subsection 101(14) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14), and includes any mixtures of such hazardous substances with any other substances.
7. The term "hazardous waste" shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 1004(5) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(5), and 40 CFR Part 261.
8. The term "identify" means, with respect to a natural person, to set forth the person's name, present or last known business and personal addresses, email address(es), and telephone numbers, and present or last known job title, position or business. Also provide e-mail addresses.

9. The term "identify" means, with respect to a corporation, partnership, business trust or other association or business entity (including, but not limited to, a sole proprietorship), to set forth its full name, address, and legal form (e.g. corporation [including state of incorporation], partnership, etc.), organization, if any, a brief description of its business, and to indicate whether or not it is still in existence and, if it is no longer in existence, to explain how its existence was terminated and to indicate the date on which it ceased to exist. Also provide e-mail addresses.
10. The term "identify" means, with respect to a document, to provide the type of document, to provide its customary business description, its date, its number, if any (invoice or purchase order number), subject matter, the identity of the author, addressor, addressee and/or recipient, and the present location of such document.
11. The term "material(s)" shall mean any and all objects, goods, substances, or matter of any kind including, but not limited to, wastes or hazardous wastes.
12. The term "operator" shall mean those persons who operates or operated the facility (i.e., the SBA Shipyard Superfund Site) during the time when the hazardous substances were disposed.
13. The term "owner" shall mean those persons who now own or owned the facility (i.e., the SBA Shipyard Superfund Site).
14. The term "person" shall have the same definition as in Section 101(21) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21).
15. The terms "pollutant" or "contaminant," shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 101(33) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(33), and includes any mixtures of such pollutants and contaminants with any other substances. The term shall include, but not be limited to, any element, substance, compound, or mixture. The term shall also include disease-causing agents which after release into the environment will or may reasonably be anticipated to cause death, disease, behavioral abnormalities, cancer, genetic mutation, physiological malfunctions (including malfunction in reproduction), or physical deformations.
16. The term "release" has the same definition as that contained in Section 101(22) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22), and includes any spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, discharging, injecting, escaping, leaching, dumping, or disposing into the environment, including the abandonment or discharging of barrels, containers, and other closed receptacles containing any hazardous substance or pollutant or contaminant.
17. The term "Site" or "Facility" shall mean and include the SBA Shipyard Superfund Site located on the west bank of the Mermentau River at the end of Louisiana Highway 3166 approximately four miles southeast of Jennings, Louisiana and approximately two miles southwest of the Mermentau River. SBA is situated on approximately 98 acres of land located in a rural-industrial area, at 9040 Castex Landing Road, Jennings, Jefferson Davis Parish, Louisiana. The facility is within Section 19 of Range 2W, Township 10S.

18. The term “solid waste” shall have the same definition as that contained in Section 1004(27) of RCRA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(27), and 40 CFR Part 261.
19. The term “you” or “your” or "Respondent" or "you" shall mean the addressee of this Request, including the addressee's officers, managers, employees, contractors, tastes, partner, successors and agents.
20. Words in the masculine shall be construed in the feminine, and vice versa, and words in the singular shall be construed in the plural, and vice versa, where appropriate in the context of a particular question or questions as necessary to bring within the scope of this Information Request any information which might otherwise be construed to be outside its scope.
21. All terms not defined herein shall have their ordinary meaning, unless such terms are defined in CERCLA, RCRA, 40 CFR Part 300 or 40 CFR Parts 260-280, in which case the statutory or regulatory definitions shall apply.
22. All terms not defined herein shall have their ordinary meaning, unless such terms are defined in CERCLA, RCRA, 40 CFR Part 300 or 40 CFR Parts 260-280, in which case the statutory or regulatory definitions shall apply.

**ENCLOSURE 3**  
**SBA SHIPYARD SUPERFUND SITE**  
**JENNINGS, JEFFERSON PARISH, LOUISIANA**

**INFORMATION REQUEST**

**QUESTIONS**

**GENERAL INFORMATION CONCERNING RESPONDENT**

1. Provide the full legal name and mailing address of the Respondent.
2. Identify and provide the full name, title, business address, and business telephone number for each person answering these questions on behalf of the Respondent, and each person(s) that was relied on or consulted with in the preparation of the answer.
3. If Respondent wishes to designate an individual for all future correspondence concerning this Site, including legal notices, please provide the individual's name, address, and telephone number.
4. If Respondent is a business, please give a brief description of the nature of the business.

**REQUESTS FOR DOCUMENTS**

Please identify (see Definitions) and provide copies of all documents (see Definitions) consulted, examined, or referred to in the preparation of the answers to the above questions including all subparts of each question, or that contain information responsive to the question.

**Section 1**

1. Have you in any way been involved with the Site?
  - a. If so, please describe your involvement with the Site.
  - b. Provide copies of documents related to any involvement with the Site.
2. If your answer to question 1 above is **“No”**, **you do not need to respond to the remaining questions.**

**Section 2**

3. Please identify any dealings or transactions you and/or any associated entities have or had with SBA Shipyards, Inc., Louis Smailhall, Suzanne Smailhall, LEEVAC Shipyards, Inc., n/k/a Bunge Street Properties, LLC, and LEEVAC Industries, LLC n/k/a LEEVAC Shipyards Jennings, LLC. Please provided a brief description of the nature of those dealings or transactions and the timeframes during which those dealings and transactions occurred.
  - a. Specifically, provide date(s) that your barge(s) were sent and/or removed from the Site, the type of product and/or material your barges brought to the Site, the name and

contact information of the person who made such arrangements.

4. Please provide any and all documents in your possession that are related to the dealings and transactions detailed in Question 6 above.
5. Please include a detailed listing of cargo materials from transactions described in Question 7, the materials data safety sheet, dates of transaction, and any quantity associated with those materials.
6. Identify all of the individuals who currently have and those who have had responsibility for the Respondent's environmental matters (e.g., responsibility for the disposal, treatment, storage, recycling, or sale of the Respondent's wastes). This information shall include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - a. Each individual's job title and duties (including the dates performing those duties),
  - b. The supervisors for such duties,
  - c. The current position or the date of the individual's resignation,
  - d. The nature of the information possessed by such individuals concerning the Respondent's waste management, and
  - e. The contact information of the individual.
7. Does the Respondent's company or business have a permit(s) issued under RCRA? If so, provide a copy(ies) of the permit(s).
8. Provide all RCRA Identification Numbers issued to Respondent by EPA or a state for Respondent's operations.
9. Does the Respondent's company or business have, or has it ever had, a permit(s) under the hazardous waste laws of the State? If so, provide a copy(ies) of the permit(s).
10. Does the Respondent's company or business have an EPA Identification Number, or an identification number supplied by the State? If so, supply any such identification number(s).
12. Identify all federal, state, and local offices and agencies to which the Respondent has sent or filed hazardous substance or hazardous waste information and state the years during which such information was sent or filed.
13. Provide copies of all documents created or kept by the Respondent related to the nature, quantity, or source of the materials taken to the Site.
14. If barges were placed or disposed at the Site, provide the following information:
  - a. Where they were placed or disposed, and
  - b. Their condition when placed or disposed.

15. Identify other individuals and entities that the Respondent has reason to believe may have taken or sent materials to the Site. Of these individuals and entities, specify which were observed by the Respondent at the Site and indicate when those observations were made. Provide all of the information known by the Respondent regarding the customers of these entities or individuals.